Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development

Resident Survey STATEWIDE RESULTS



Chapter 705 Housing Summary Spring 2016

NOTE

This copy of the survey shows the percentage of respondents who chose each answer. DHCD also collected demographic information from survey respondents, such as gender, race, education, and age. The responses to these demographic questions are not included in this report in order to protect the anonymity of respondents.

In the spring of 2016, surveys were sent to **2890** Chapter 705 housing units. **1000** surveys were completed. This percentages presented here are based on that number.

1. How many years have you lived in your **current** apartment?

8% Less than 1 year

15% 1 to 2 years

25% 3 to 5 years

53% More than 5 years

Maintenance & Repair

8. In the last 12 months, how many times did you contact the management of your development about a problem or concern with your apartment or building?

11% Never \rightarrow If Never, go to #11

20% Once

43% 2 or 3 times

26% 4 times or more

9. In the last 12 months, how often was the problem or concern solved as soon as you needed?

12% Never

31% Sometimes

18% Usually

39% Always

10. In the last 12 months, when you contacted the management of your development, how often were you treated with courtesy and respect?

6% Never

19% Sometimes

19% Usually

56% Always

11. In the last 12 months, how many times did you have problems with the heat in your apartment?

60% Never \rightarrow If Never, go to #13

20% Once

13% 2 or 3 times

7% 4 times or more

12. How long did it usually take for the problems with your heat to be fixed?

47% Less than 24 hours

25% 24 to 48 hours

12% More than 48 hours

15% Never fixed

13. In the last 12 months, how many times did you have problems with the water or plumbing in your apartment?

45% Never \rightarrow If Never, go to #15

29% Once

17% 2 or 3 times

8% 4 times or more

14. How long did it take for the problems with your water or plumbing to be fixed?

43% Less than 24 hours

27% 24 to 48 hours

16% More than 48 hours

13% Never fixed

Communication

15. In the last 12 months, has the Executive Director at your development held any meetings with residents?

21% Yes

51% No

28% Don't Remember

16. For each of the following documents, please mark whether or not you have seen it in the last 12 months.

| Capital Improvement Plan (a 5-year plan showing what construction projects are planned for your development) | 18% Yes 82% No |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Operating budget | 12% Yes |
| for the entire Housing Authority | 88% No |
| Annual Plan (the Housing Authority's written goals and objectives for improvements that will happen in the next year) | 20% Yes 80% No |

17. If your Housing Authority offered them, what kinds of services or programs would you be most interested in using? *Mark one or more*.

29% Job training programs

- **28%** Money management programs (budgeting, taxes, income building)
- **33%** Children's programs (tutoring, childcare, afterschool)
- **23%** Health and Medical Services (visiting nurse, meal programs)
- **23%** Adult Education (GED, ESL, educational counseling)
 - 8% Other

Safety

18. In your development, how safe do you feel going out alone during the day?

64% Very safe

22% Mostly safe

10% Somewhat safe

4% Not at all safe

19. In your development, how safe do you feel going out alone at night?

44% Very safe

28% Mostly safe

18% Somewhat safe

10% Not at all safe

20. In general, how safe do you feel in your building?

56% Very safe

27% Mostly safe

12% Somewhat safe

5% Not at all safe

21. Now think about your building and all the other areas of your housing development. In the last 12 months, how often has each of the following been a problem for you?

| | | Never | Rarely | Sometimes | Always |
|----|--|-------|--------|-----------|--------|
| a. | Building maintenance (such as clean halls and stairways and having lights and elevators that work) | 49% | 13% | 17% | 21% |
| b. | How the outdoor space is maintained (such as litter removal and clear walk ways) | 41% | 13% | 22% | 24% |
| c. | Illegal activity in the development | 60% | 12% | 18% | 10% |
| d. | Strangers hanging around who should not be there | 50% | 18% | 20% | 12% |